



PERSONAL

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EDUCATION

Master of Policy Studies, University of NSW (2012)
Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours), University of Sydney (1999)



Rebecca is passionate about generating evidence and insights to inform good decision-making. She is a highly experienced leader of evaluation teams in policy areas spanning education, early childhood, aged care, road safety and community services. She has also worked in senior NSW Public Service roles in policy and strategy, and as commissioner of evaluations. This gives her additional insight to the decision-making challenges facing policy makers and administrators, as well as their information needs. Rebecca has expertise in a range of evaluation approaches, as well as coaching and mentoring to build evaluation capability.



Evaluation is an opportunity for learning and improvement and for bringing in fresh perspectives. It allows organisations to look to the future with confidence, having learnt lessons from the past, and set up knowledge-building systems to inform ongoing decision-making.

REBECCA WILKINSON DIRECTOR



EVALUATION AND REVIEW SERVICES

- >> **Process Evaluation of 2021 Response to COVID-19** (NSW Department of Education, 2022): The evaluation answered questions about preparedness, design and implementation, and implications for future crisis responses. We consulted with 60 stakeholders and synthesised previous reviews and research reports.
- >> **Year 7 to High School Evaluation** (SA Department for Education, 2022): An evaluation of the major system reform transitioning Year 7 primary students to secondary settings. The evaluation identified lessons learnt to inform the design and delivery of any future system-wide changes.
- >> **Evaluation of the Third Party Provider Project** (Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, 2022): A process evaluation of an operational reform project implemented to address the growth challenges of the Commission's program of reaccreditation site audits of residential aged care services.
- >> **Review and alignment of regional operations** (Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, 2022): Review of the structure and functions of Regional Operations Support Teams, to inform the team design for the next financial year.
- >> **Combined Offence Implementation Review** (Transport for NSW, 2022): The Combined Drink and Drug Driving Offence came into effect in June 2021 and introduced more severe penalties for drivers testing positive to both alcohol and drugs. The review focused on the implementation of the new offence during the first 12 months.
- >> **Evaluation of Qwestacon National Presence Strategy** (Qwestacon, 2021-2022): A baseline evaluation, in three sites, of its National Presence Strategy that aims to cultivate a STEM learning ecosystem that will enable collaborative, connected, and sustained learning environments and pathways for young people.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- >> **Health and Development Checks in Preschools Study** (NSW Department of Education, 2023): An in-depth study of 9 early childhood services working in partnership with local health services to deliver health and development checks. The project informed planning for a state-wide implementation of checks.
- >> **Early Childhood Workforce Retention Consultation** (NSW Department of Education, 2023): Consultation with leaders of early childhood education peak bodies, service providers and academic experts to understand workforce retention challenges and identify high priority short to medium term initiatives.
- >> **Consultations on Start Strong** (NSW Department of Education, 2022): Consultations with long day care services and community preschools on draft model changes, to seek feedback and better understand implications in a range of service delivery contexts.